

PLAIN TALKS

July-August
1981



MAIL BOX

THE COVER

Photographer W. S. Young's camera silhouetted these birds on Sidney Island in Sabine Lake.

Young is a brand-new *Plain Talks* correspondent who works at Sabine Station.

A related story on Young is in this month's Meet Your Correspondent column.

Susan Gilley
Gulf States Utilities

Dear Editor:

Just a note to say "thank you" for the superb story about skydiving in the May 1981 *Plain Talks*. We are always appreciative of stories that help shed some light on the fun and safety of sport parachuting.

Skydiving is still considered by some to be a death-defying sport for suicidal fools. Articles such as the one in your magazine are a big help in showing that this is not true.

Sincerely,
Scott Latinis
James Turner
Skyhawks Parachute Club

Harriet Babin
Gulf States Utilities
Baton Rouge, La.

Dear Miss Babin:

Your attendance at the opening session of the 67th Annual 4-H Short Course for the purpose of accepting the "Partners in 4-H" plaque made our ceremony a complete success.

It is inspiring and very heartening to the 4-H members, their leaders and agents, as well as state workers, to receive the generous support you and other sponsors provide for the 4-H program.

Again, thank you for your interest and generous support.

Sincerely,
C. J. Naquin
State Club Agent

Gulf States Utilities
Lake Charles, La.

Dear Sir:

Please accept my sincere thanks for the things you have done for me since it is greatly appreciated. If at any time I can be of help in any way in carrying out the program you are doing I am as close as the phone. Feel free to call me at any time. I think you are doing a wonderful job with Gulf States.

Sincerely,
Ora Reiser

Gulf States Utilities
Denham Springs, La.

Dear Sir:

On behalf of the board of aldermen, police department and residents of the town of Walker, I would like to express our thanks for the help and support you gave during the power outage and damage caused by the wind storm here Friday night, July 10, 1981. Feel free to call on us any time that you need our assistance.

Yours truly,
Albert Pendarvis
Mayor

Mr. J. Brooks Bishop
Gulf States Utilities
Beaumont, Texas

Dear Mr. Bishop:

Thank you for your most informative talk on energy at our recent meeting at the Sheraton Beaumont. Everyone learned a great deal, and perhaps through this type of communication we can together meet the challenge of energy demands in the future.

If ever in Houston, please drop by for a visit at the Sheraton Town and Country.

Sincerely,
Nick Massad Jr.
Regional Council Chairman
Sheraton Corporation

PLAIN TALKS

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July-August 1981

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Director-Employee
Information/Media Services

Kim McMurray

Editor:

Susan Gilley

Correspondents:

Adelaide Bankston

Kathleen Chelette

Connie Herford

Fred Jones

Les Jones

Helen Kennedy

Earl Landry

Edith Patterson

Rose Reeves

Casey Richert

Joe Russian

D. W. Rutherford

David Thornhill

Doris Wallace

Nina Wiley

W. S. Young

Employees who change residences or offices should fill out company mailing-address-change forms (GSU0012-00-79) and return them to the mailroom in the Wilson Building. GSU publications, departmental mailings and other company information are not automatically forwarded; addresses must be corrected when employees move.

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Chairman Takes Leave

Board Chairman Don Crawford announced Aug. 7 that he was taking a medical leave of absence from his duties as chief executive officer.

It was also announced that Norman R. Lee, president and chief operating officer, would be acting chief executive officer while Crawford is on leave.

Crawford said he was taking the leave of absence in order to speed his recovery from a motor neuron disease which in recent months has made it increasingly difficult for him to walk.

Doctors in the Department of Neurology at the University of Southern California School of Medicine have recently ascertained that Crawford has an unusual form of the disease which affects the nerve cells that control movement of the legs and arms.

In a letter to GSU employees explaining the status of his health, Crawford said, "There are several known types of motor neuron disease, but my symptoms do not fit any of these medical slots."

Crawford has begun participating in an experimental program of medication and the doctors have told him they are optimistic his condition will stabilize because it is in such an early stage and because he is otherwise in such good health.

At the time of Crawford's announcement about taking a leave of absence, he noted that he was looking forward to resuming his normal activities after the period of convalescence.

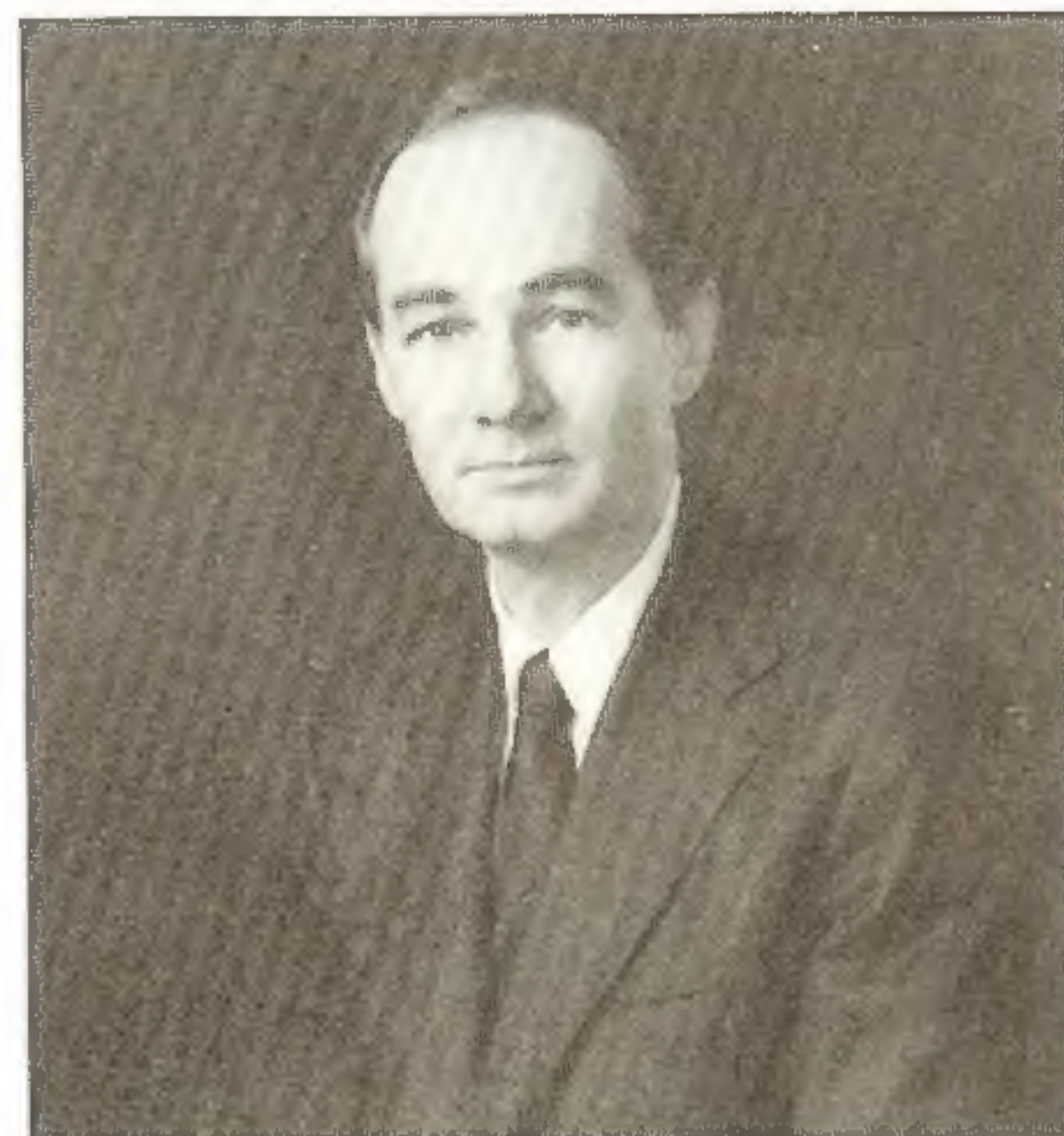
Although Crawford is to continue as chairman of the board, John W. Barton, an outside GSU director from Baton Rouge, has assumed interim duties as chairman of the board's executive committee.

Lee is a 32-year Gulf States veteran, having joined the company in 1949 as an engineer. He

moved up through the operating ranks and was named a vice president and a director in 1967, with responsibility for Baton Rouge operations.

He became senior vice president for division operations in 1970 and executive vice president in 1972. His election as president and chief operating officer came in May of 1973.

Barton is president of Jack's Cookie Co. in Baton Rouge and has been on the GSU board of directors since 1970.



Letter to Employees

The full text of Crawford's letter to employees follows:

"My recent health problems have been a subject of much discussion during recent months. I am writing today to bring you up to date on the status of my health and to dispel the many rumors about what diseases I have and don't have.

"Many of you have seen, or heard about, my difficulty in walking. At first, we thought it was back trouble, perhaps arthritis. But as my legs and left arm became increasingly stiff, the diagnosis became less certain. We went to doctor after doctor, but none could identify my ailment.

"As you probably know by now, I have recently returned from two weeks in California where I was examined by two of the nation's top experts in neurology and virology. These doctors, who are associated with the University of Southern California School of Medicine, have ascertained that I have an unusual form of motor neuron disease. This means that the nerve cells which control movement of the legs and arms have been damaged.

"There are several known types of motor neuron disease, but my

symptoms do not fit any of these medical slots. I have no other medical problems aside from the stiffness in my legs and the stiffness and weakness in my left arm.

"The doctors in California have asked me to participate in an experimental program of medication, and I am doing so. They are optimistic that my condition will stabilize since the disease is in such an early stage and since I am otherwise in such good health.

"I feel fine, but the fact remains that I am coping with a serious illness and it will take time to overcome it. In order for me to be able to concentrate on restoring my health, the board of directors and I have agreed that I should take a medical leave of absence from my duties as chief executive officer.

"There is no way to know how long this leave will last, but the board's and my expectation is that I will resume my normal activities after this period of convalescence. I feel very confident of my ability to recover.

"Although I will remain as chairman of the board, Norman Lee will serve as acting chief

(Continued on page 19.)

NEWS BRIEFS



Draper assumes new position

Dr. E. Linn Draper, formerly vice president for nuclear technology in the River Bend Nuclear Group, has been elected senior vice president for engineering and technical services.

Draper was to assume the position Sept. 1. It was termed a part of a realignment of the company's non-nuclear engineering and construction activities.

Although Draper was to transfer out of the River Bend Nuclear Group, he was to remain active in the nuclear field, where he is a nationally-known authority and spokesman.

He also was to continue as liaison with the River Bend Technical Advisory Committee, a group of three outside nuclear experts who review plans and progress at the River Bend nuclear unit now being built near St. Francisville.

In his new post, Dr. Draper was to report to Edward M. Loggins, executive vice president for administrative and technical services. Reporting to Draper were to be the vice presidents in charge of Power Plant Engineering and Design, Fossil Projects and Technical Services.

Board announces personnel changes

The election of a new assistant treasurer and three personnel changes involving the Port Arthur and Lake Charles divisions were announced Aug. 6 by company officials.



McBride McKenzie

The board of directors elected Clyde W. McBride assistant treasurer, effective Aug. 16. McBride has been with the company four years, most recently as director of financial planning and analysis.

In other action, W. E. "Bill" Richard, who has been division vice president in Lake Charles, was named operations manager for the entire GSU system and was to move to the company's corporate headquarters in Beaumont.

Replacing Richard in Lake Charles was to be J. Ted Meinscher, previously division vice president in Port Arthur. Ronald McKenzie, who was GSU's operations manager, was to become division vice president in Port Arthur.

The new assignments for Richard, Meinscher and McKenzie were to be effective Sept. 1.

Six colleges to get aid

Seven junior and senior electrical engineering majors in six universities in the Gulf States service area will have their financial burdens eased this school year.

GSU is to be handing out \$1,200 scholarship checks in late August to the electrical engineering

departments of Louisiana State University and Southern University in Baton Rouge, Lamar University in Beaumont, McNeese State University in Lake Charles, the University of Southwestern Louisiana in Lafayette and Texas A&M University in College Station.

Faculty members from the electrical engineering departments at the universities will name the scholarship recipients at the beginning of the fall semester.

McNeese has elected to award two \$600 scholarships.

Bill Barksdale, vice president of technical services, explained GSU has had "a low profile in the power end of electrical engineering." Hopefully, he said, the scholarships will generate interest in the company which is always looking for qualified graduate engineers.

The scholarship winners will be invited to visit GSU during the year to become more familiar with the company and with the electric utility industry, Barksdale said.

Fruge serves as officer

Sheldon Fruge of Nelson Station has been elected vice president of the Sabine-Neches chapter of the International Maintenance Institute for 1981.

Fruge is general maintenance supervisor at the power plant in the Lake Charles Division.

NEWS BRIEFS



Mobile home dealer enrolls in N.E.W.

Wellington Family Housing, a division of Arnaudville Industries, enrolled in the National Energy Watch program on July 6, becoming the first Baton Rouge Division mobile home dealer to do so.

Division Vice President Jim Moss represented Gulf States by enrolling Wellington representatives in the energy conservation program. Shown with Moss (at right) are (from left) Walt Abercrombie and Dave Shirey, both of whom are Wellington home consultants.

Also attending the signing ceremony was Brooks Bishop, system coordinator for energy information, who commented, "The National Energy Watch is a program of today designed for tomorrow. It is designed to help the mobile homeowners and at the same time ensure that Gulf States Utilities Company can continue to provide sufficient energy to our customers at the lowest possible cost."

During the first six months of 1981, Gulf States added about 4,400 new single-family homes. Of that total, 2,500, or 56 percent, were mobile homes. According to Bishop, the average bill for a typical 1,000-square-foot mobile home located in the GSU service area is \$101 for the six warm months of May through October. That figure is expected to increase to about \$190 by 1985.

Bishop continued, "It is vitally important that mobile home dealers, manufacturers, lenders and service organizations become involved in a program to reduce the amount of energy used by mobile home customers."

By meeting the certification requirements of the voluntary N.E.W. program, mobile homeowners can reduce their monthly bills and also help Gulf States reduce its demand for more generating capacity, Bishop noted.



Employees undergo reactor training

Gulf States employees who will be assigned to River Bend Station nuclear plant have begun reactor training.

During a recent training session offered by the Texas Engineering Extension Service at Texas A&M University, three GSUers were among those who worked with the one-megawatt research reactor.

Shown bringing the reactor to full power is Lonnie Kettl (seated), while two other Gulf States operators look on. They are (from left) Merton O. "Tex" Bishop and Ed Shankle.

Families attend safety fair

About 650 Gulf States employees and their families attended the Beaumont Division safety fair and employee picnic at the Live Wires Club near Silsbee on June 13.



Entertainment for the event was provided by Louis Bourque and his Gully Jumpers band. (The group is shown in one photograph.) In addition, the fair featured rides in Line Department bucket trucks and a dunking booth.



Three cooks for the picnic are shown in the other photograph. Gerald Bailey grins at the camera while Fouts Sanders (center) and Ray Marshall keep on cooking.

Sabine Station Houses System Lab

by W. S. Young III

Gene Cotton has been dubbed "Yoda" by his co-workers — a comparison to the wizened sage in "The Empire Strikes Back," the sequel to "Star Wars."

Just as Yoda was a storehouse of knowledge for young Luke Skywalker, so Cotton has been for the young chemists who have trained under him at the system laboratory at Sabine Station.

Now lead chemist at the lab, Cotton is a chemistry graduate of Lamar University who has worked at the facility for 11½ years.

According to the bearded supervisor, the system lab "sort of takes up where the other laboratories leave off." Smaller testing facilities are located in the Willow Glen, Nelson Station and Neches Station power plants. Lewis Creek has no power plant and the one at Louisiana Station is not staffed at the present.

Currently, only Cotton and chemist Terry Swan are assigned to the system lab since fellow chemist, John Williams, was recently named lead environmental analyst in Power Plant Engineering and Design in Beaumont.

Among the tests handled by the pair are water quality analysis, fuels analysis for both oil and natural gas, metals analysis and analysis of scale (boiler deposits). "Occasionally we do environmental-type analyses, although most of that is handled by outside environmental scientists," Cotton explained. Swan, he noted, holds a degree from Lamar University in environmental science.

Staffing the system lab is not an 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. job. The staffers must be on call whenever any plant is experiencing problems

in their water plants, for instance. And, when it is time to "chemical" the boilers and condensers, then Cotton and Swan can plan on a 24-hour-a-day job as they oversee cleaning the scale build-up with an acid treatment.

Those assigned to the lab report to Pat Brady, system chemicals engineer based in Beaumont.

Cotton pointed out that the group attempts to keep up with the latest technologies. "If somebody comes out with a new water test, for instance," he said, "we'll get it and try to streamline it for our purposes."

In that sense, he continued, the system lab is involved in "semi-research."



Gene Cotton, lead chemist

Terry Swan, chemist



Louisiana Duo Attends Ceremony

by Sharon Englade

Gulf States Utilities and the state of Louisiana garnered their share of recognition at National Energy Education Day (NEED) ceremonies in Washington D.C. earlier this summer.

The student director of NEED projects in Louisiana, Shirley Thompson, a spring graduate of Slidell High School, was one of 31 students from across the nation invited to participate in the event — and the only teen-ager to address the banquet where a representative of the Department of Energy delivered the keynote address.

Lydia Brown, GSU's consumer information coordinator for the Baton Rouge division who accompanied Shirley to the nation's capital, had a role in the "Meet the Experts" seminar and was the only utility company representative present.

As a result of her work in assisting Shirley produce one of the top five state programs in the nation, Lydia has been appointed state coordinator for NEED '82.

The NEED program, sponsored by the National School Boards

Association, DOE and private enterprise, is a 10-year effort designed to promote the more efficient use of energy and renewable energy sources in the home, school and community.

Harriet Babin, supervisor of consumer services in Baton Rouge, served as state NEED chairman in 1979 and coordinated a series of "coffee klatches" throughout the state for women interested in energy.

Last year's NEED program concentrated in the schools where Shirley, as student director for the state, organized the energy awareness programs by working with student councils all over Louisiana.

Shirley's project, according to Lydia, was the only statewide program, while students from other states had limited their projects to one specific area.

Another Slidell girl, Yolanda Tsai, has been named student director for Louisiana for this next year and will be working with Lydia in developing the NEED program.

T. C. "Tommy" Landrum, director of research and develop-

ment for the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources and last year's American Energy Week state coordinator, praised the NEED program for its role in involving young people in energy awareness.

"Most adults have bad energy habits because they grew up during the energy-plenty years and are not conscious of the need to conserve," he said.

"We feel we've got to start earlier — with the high school groups — and change their thinking. The NEED project attempts to get through to an intelligent group of high school students. Let's hope it rubs off on their compatriots," said Landrum.

The message the program is trying to broadcast, he said, is that people "have got to live life a little differently from that of their parents. High school kids are the adults of tomorrow and the mothers and fathers of the day after tomorrow. They may not ever get into the expensive, extravagant ways."

In getting ready for her new responsibility, Lydia was to attend a leadership training conference for all state coordinators and student directors in Golden Pond, Ky., in late August. On her return, she plans to gear up by "helping organize businesses and industry and gain support for the state project" by attracting "manpower, funding and expertise," Lydia said.

Shirley, who enrolls in Loyola University in New Orleans in the fall as a communications major, will be one of the participants in the leadership program along with representatives from various government and private organizations, such as the DOE, the Atomic Industrial Forum and the Tennessee Valley Authority.



Shirley Thompson (second from left) and Lydia Brown (third from left) met with NEED Regional Director William Crooks before leaving for Washington.



Joseph L. Manena

Radio Enthusiasts Perform Service

Gulf States has more than one "ham" around the workplace — but they aren't practical jokesters.

Instead, 41 Gulf Staters are among the estimated 350,000 amateur radio operators throughout the United States, who are affectionately dubbed "hams."

Joseph L. Manena, a 25-year veteran of Gulf States assigned to communications in Lake Charles, is among that number, since he earned his "ham ticket" years ago while attending college in Port Arthur. Later, he worked at KPAC radio station there as a broadcast engineer.

According to Manena, "Amateur radio can best be described as a multi-faceted hobby which ultimately performs a public service." But, besides allowing man to help man during hurricanes and other disasters, the pastime also gives enthusiasts a great deal of enjoyment "just through talking to other hams from around the world," Manena continued. Manena has talked to hams located on Tonga Island, down in Antarctica, near Moscow in the U.S.S.R. and to others from just across town.

A June *Plain Talks* article recounted fellow ham Tom Clark's role in organizing the Bum Phillips Celebrity Golf Tournament in Port Arthur this spring. In addition to Clark's leadership

effort, two Beaumont GSUsers provided valuable links in the communications chain as they headed net control for both events held that weekend in Port Arthur. Carl Rabalais was based at the golf tournament, while Steve Gomez was at the Confederate Air Force Air Show.

Along with Manena, Clark, Rabalais and Gomez, other GSU hams hold a system-wide "net" every Monday. Milton Smith of Conroe (K5JQ) is net control and organizer.

Manena said the group finds plenty to talk about during the weekly sessions. "We talk about GSU, of course, and about our jobs and about what Dan Goodman (K5OOP) is doing in Conroe," he explained. "I found out that Murry Greer (K5JAC) is in safety, working in Baton Rouge, but comes to Nelson Station sometimes to work. He could run into Alan Levine (WA5LQZ) of Nelson. Although we are spread out over a large area, our shared interest in ham radio helps make us into a family," Manena added.

Manena belongs to two Lake Charles area radio clubs. The groups maintain a VHF-FM repeater atop City Hall and can place telephone calls through an automatic phone patch with a one-watt Handie-Talkie equipped with touch-tone pads. According to the

hobbyist, "We can call city and state police, the sheriff's department, the National Weather Service and the fire department just by pushing two buttons. Our repeater gives a Handie-Talkie and low-power mobile units about a 30-mile range."

Manena also belongs to the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary Amateur Radio Net, covering the five-state 8th Coast Guard District. In 1980, Manena served as net control station. In addition, Manena checks into the Maritime Mobile Net and the Maritime Mobile Service Net, which cover the Pacific and Indian oceans. The service net also covers maritime areas in the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico. According to the Lake Charles man, the nets run phone patches for non-commercial sailors at sea. The nets run 24 hours a day and enable hams from all over the world to check in to see if they can be of any service in transmitting messages coming their way.

"Besides phone patches from ships at sea," continued Manena, "the maritime nets collect crew and sea conditions and position reports for all yachts and pleasure boats at sea every 24 hours.



Louis Sandidge visits with Babs Blair, an executive secretary at B&R Industries, which now occupies the old Navasota Division headquarters.

Dateline/Navasota...

When Louis Sandidge was transferred to the Western Division's Madisonville office in 1976, he was a little wary about making the transition from Beaumont to a small town.

But by April 1980, when Sandidge was moved to nearby Navasota, the lanky district superintendent had become addicted to small-town life. He and his wife, Carmelena, are content, he says, to rear their three youngsters in a peaceful, rural setting. Not only does Sandidge approve of the scenery and the feeling of belonging to a community, but he also relishes the change in pace of his job.

"It's hectic because a local office is Gulf States — the whole of GSU on a small scale," he reveals. The situation is helped by one fact, however — "Everybody knows everybody, so you're dealing with your neighbor and not just some nameless customer," Sandidge continues.

Navasota is not just any small town, though, as he is quick to point out. Although the center of population has shifted toward Conroe — away from Navasota, which once served as division headquarters — the town remains vital with several promising industries offering employment

opportunities for non-farm workers. In fact, GSU's old Navasota Division headquarters building, built around the turn of the century, was recently renovated. Now the gleaming white, spiffed-up facility serves as headquarters for B&R Industries, a previously Houston-based manufacturer of pump expendables for oil rigs.

According to Sandidge, there was a time when the youth of Navasota either "went to work for GSU or left town."

Betty Dickschat, a customer contact clerk who has been with the company almost 23 years, was one of the youngsters who decided to stay. She and her husband, Leonard, have brought up four children in Navasota. Mrs. Dickschat was assigned to the storeroom of the old headquarters building, but began work as a customer contact clerk in 1969.

The longtime employee has only one regret about her current position. When the local office moved into the present office on the outskirts of town a few years ago, it ended a daily ritual of coffeekbreaks in a downtown cafe — yet another chance to chat with customers in a neighborly fashion.

Sandidge will observe his 21st anniversary with the company

this October. His father once worked in Navasota as a dispatcher and substation operator. Sandidge, however, was born in Huntsville and reared in Beaumont.

Working in a local office might be viewed as being somewhat similar to being a part of a family.

Not only do Sandidge, Dickschat and other Navasota employees take pride in their work, but they also take pleasure in the opportunities and accomplishments of their town.

It's not that they're boastful — they would just recommend small-town life to anyone.

As Sandidge explains, "Everybody ought to try the change from a big office to a small office."



Betty Dickschat calls up information on her computer terminal, while fellow clerk Marti Orlando talks to a customer.

Visitors Center Opens

The energy future of the Gulf Coast is a story that is told both graphically and verbally at the River Bend Visitors Center, which opened this spring near GSU's first nuclear unit at St. Francisville.

The center, which is designed to educate visitors about nuclear power as well as other energy sources, is staffed by two communications representatives — Shivaun Tessier and Toni Kimball. Both have undergone training at a week-long workshop titled "Nuclear Power and the Energy Crisis" in Oak Ridge, Tenn. Also trained with the pair was Priscilla Gallagher, who is based in Baton Rouge and will provide information about nuclear power to women's organizations in the Baton Rouge area.

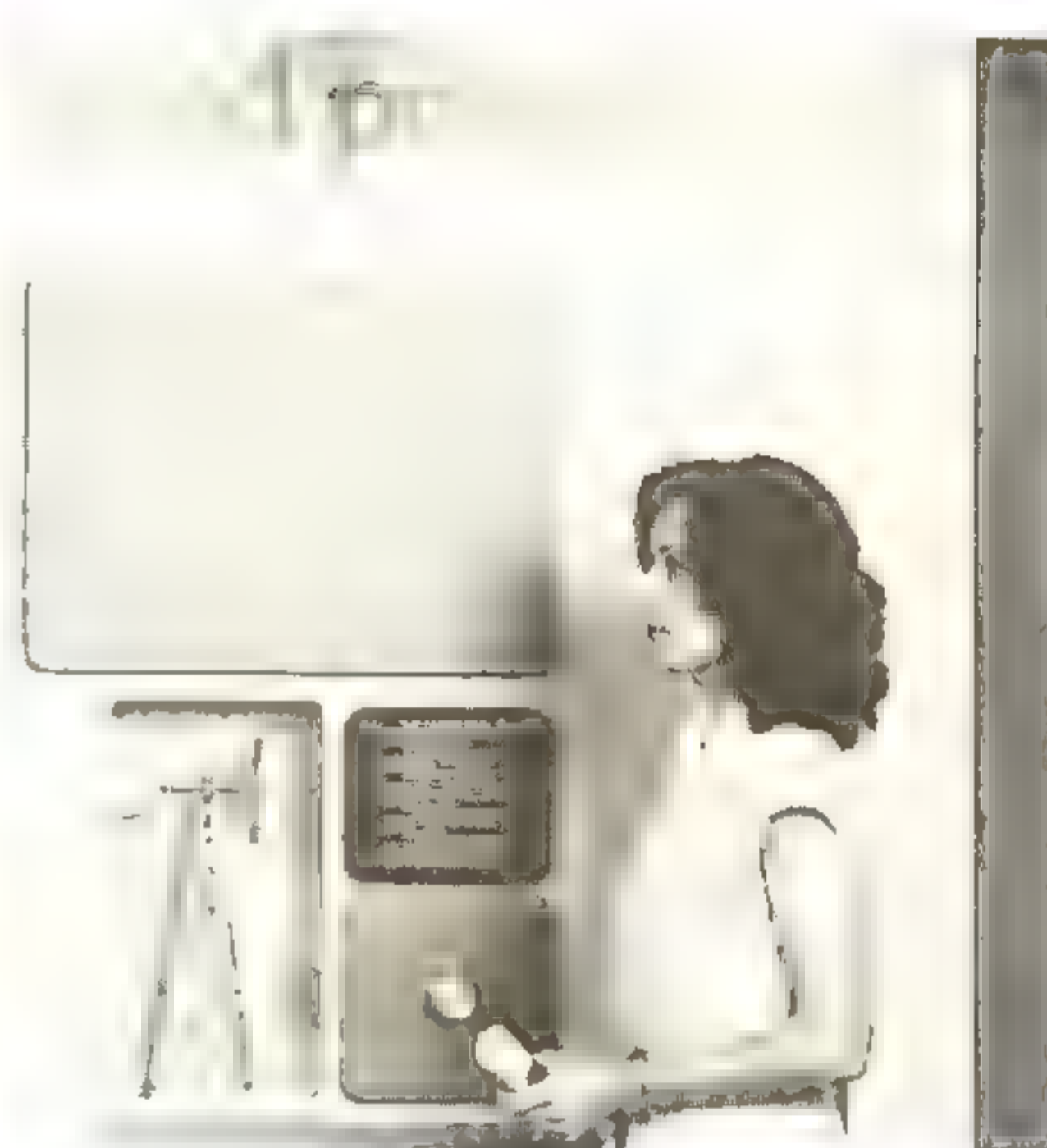
The educational aims of the River Bend Visitors Center were being furthered this summer by the staff's development of pro-



Priscilla Gallagher studies a panel.

grams which were to be presented later in schools. Also, workshops with energy-related themes were being conducted for school-teachers.

Designed for visitors of all ages, the center offers a glimpse into the many facets of nuclear energy. It also helps provide a basic insight into how River Bend and nuclear



energy will help meet the growing demand for electricity.

Display panels illustrate the story of River Bend and nuclear power. Another feature — a bicycle-type machine that demonstrates how much energy is needed to produce electricity — captures the interest of young visitors to the center.

Meet Your Correspondent: W.S. Young III of Sabine Station

Photography and antique-collecting figure among the leisure-time activities of W. S. Young III.

Evidence of his creativity with a camera can be found on the cover of this month's issue of *Plain Talks* — a shot he made while on Sidney Island in Sabine Lake.

The electrician-1st class holds an associate's degree from Lamar University. He is a graduate of San Augustine (Texas) High School.

A resident of Bridge City

for the past 1½ years, Young has worked for Gulf States since June, 1980.

In addition to his other hobbies, Young reports that he enjoys camping and other outdoor recreation. He is a member of the Sabine chapter of the National Audubon Society.

Sabine Station employees interested in contributing information or story ideas to *Plain Talks* may contact Young at extension 738-2256.



SERVICE AWARDS

30

years



Wayne C. McGilvray
Electric T&D
Lake Charles



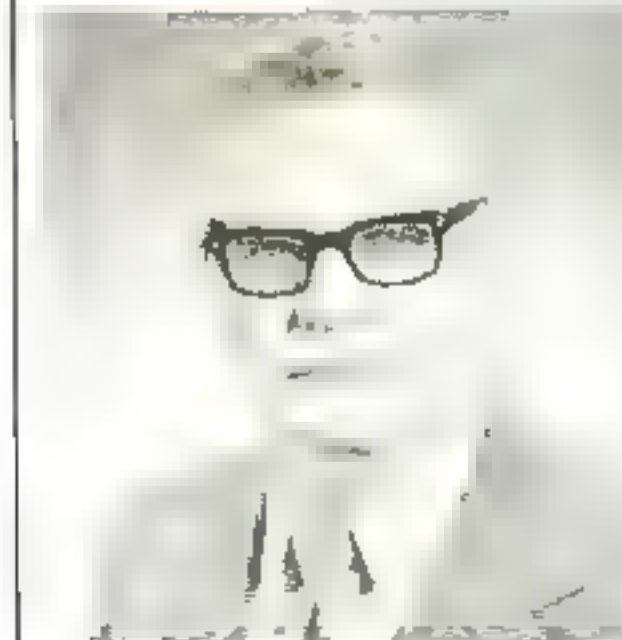
Louis J. Letulle
Division Accounting
Baton Rouge



Charles C. Ford Jr.
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge



Charles E. Foss
Division Accounting
Baton Rouge



Albert B. White Jr.
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge



Cleveland D. Sing
Electric T&D
Baton Rouge



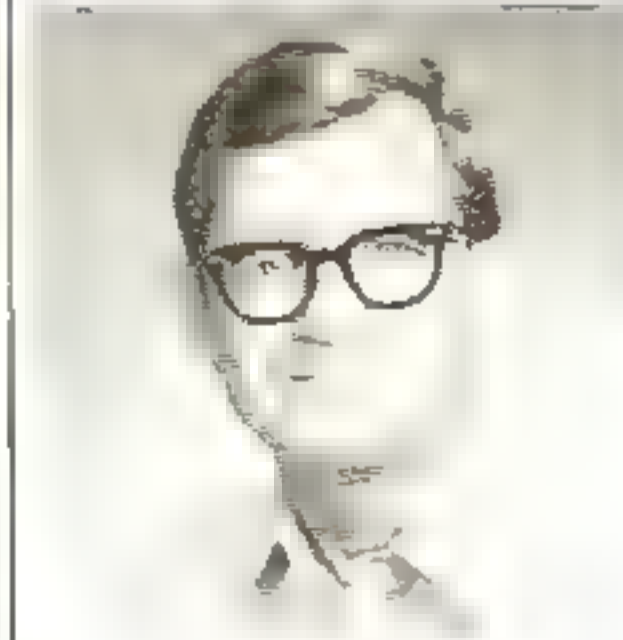
Gerald S. DeBlanc
Electric T&D
Port Arthur



Raymond W. Creel
Division Accounting
Baton Rouge



Charles I. Saunders
System Operations
Beaumont



Elie A. Picou
Division Accounting
Baton Rouge

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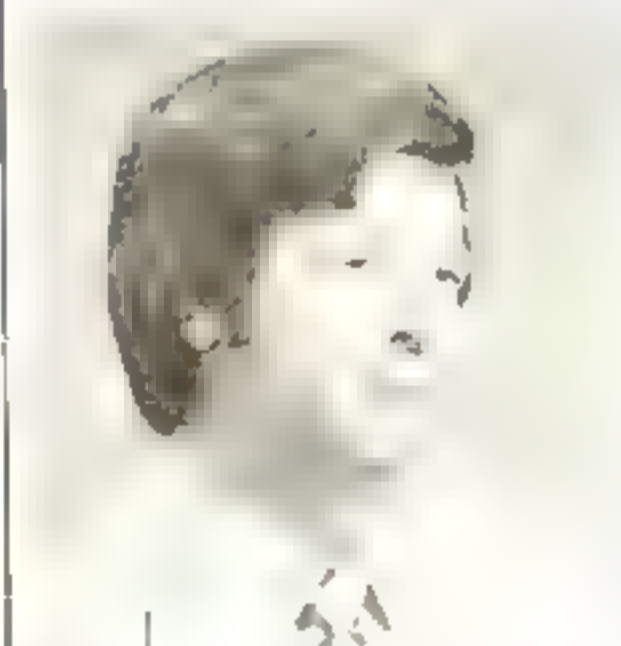
years



Ronald G. Getz
System Production
Beaumont



Gary E. Diamond
Plant Production
Willow Glen



Donnell A. Ramsey
Electric T&D
Port Arthur



Tommy L. Elliott
Electric T&D
Vidor

10

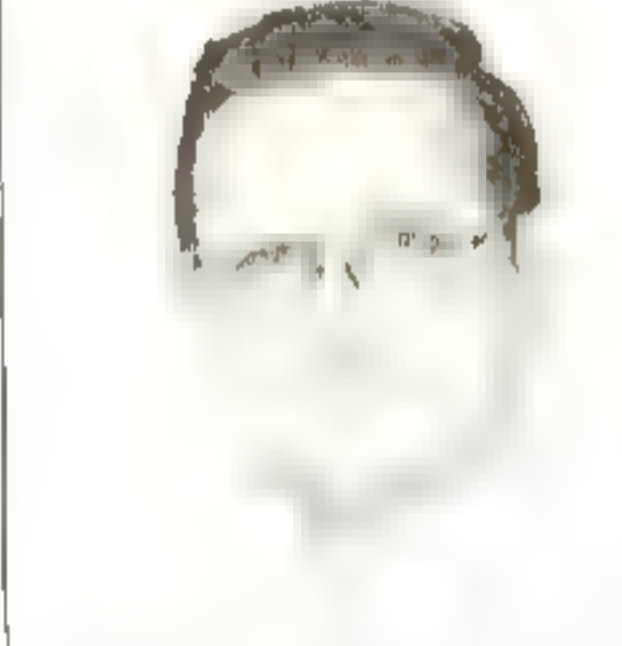
years



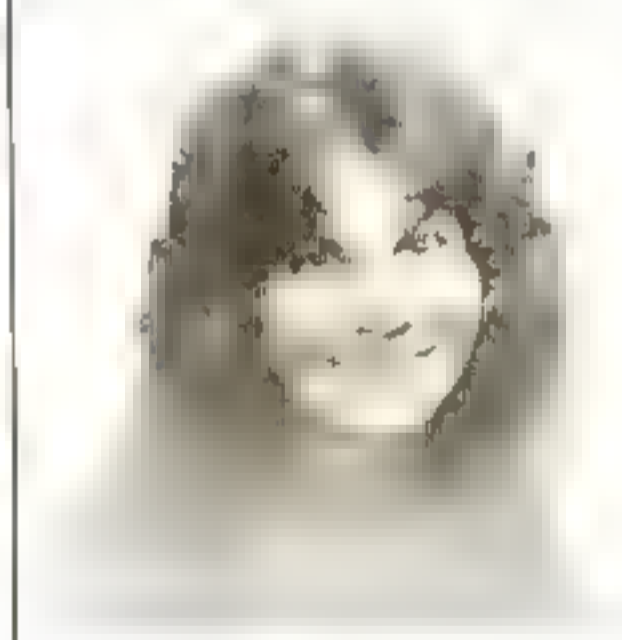
Dwight E. Anderson
Electric T&D
Port Arthur



Dianna Winkelmann
Division Accounting
New Caney



Myron C. Brown
Plant Production
Nelson Station



Mary K. Leger
Accounting Services
Beaumont



Michael Guilbeau
Electric T&D
Lafayette

RETIREE UPDATE



Derousselle ends GSU career

John "Slim" Derousselle, porter in the Lafayette storeroom, was honored with a retirement party July 10.

A 30-year veteran of Gulf States, Derousselle retired July 1. He received a cash donation and a bottle of champagne from co-workers.

Shown with Derousselle during his retirement party are (from left to right) Henry Legnon, storeroom supervisor, the new retiree and his wife and two sons.

Beaumont group meets in June

About 80 members of the Beaumont Sideliners Club heard State Sen. Carl Parker review the accomplishments of the 67th legislative session in Austin during a June 26 meeting of the club. The club has 133 members.

Parker, who represents District 4, also told the group about his Senior Intern program, in which he seeks senior citizens to serve as advisers on legislative action pertaining to older Texans.

In other business, Sideliners President Vic Gayle announced that Vic Faver, Ralph Spafford and Bill Buckley (who is also a *Plain Talks* correspondent) will serve on the club's nominating committee to select a slate of officers for 1982.

Port Arthur club meets

Frank Starford of St. Mary's Hospital in Port Arthur was the featured speaker during the July 22 meeting of the Port Arthur Sideliners Club, reported *Plain Talks* Correspondent Ruth Vaughan.

Starford explained the hospital's new Lifeline service, slated to begin Sept. 1, to the 24 members attending the luncheon meeting.

During the business session, the club selected new officers for the coming year. Rosemary Vaught will serve as president, while Margaret Parent will be vice president. Others are Arsey Borne, treasurer; Ruth Vaughan, recording secretary; and Verna DeCuir, corresponding secretary. In addition, Myrtle Boutee will head the membership and attendance committee and Wilma Ward and Mrs. Boutee will be responsible for keeping the club's album up to date.



Gradnigo given retirement party

Louis Gradnigo was honored with a barbecue supper upon his recent retirement from Gulf States in Lake Charles.

A building and grounds maintenance man, Gradnigo went to work for GSU in October, 1947, in the garage.

He transferred to the Line Department in August, 1972, then to his position with building and grounds.

Co-workers gave Gradnigo a cash gift.



Party given for couple

Mr. and Mrs. John L. Brown of Baton Rouge were honored June 30 at a dinner party marking their 60th wedding anniversary.

Brown is a Gulf States retiree who worked for the company 36 years. Mrs. Brown has served as an organist at St. Charles Church.

Hosting the party were their six children and their spouses, Mr. and Mrs. J. Carl Brown, Mr. and Mrs. Oswald G. Duhon Jr., Mr. and Mrs. John A. Speeg, Mr. and Mrs. W. K. Landers, Mr. and Mrs. John L. Brown Jr. and Mr. and Mrs. Donald F. Brown.

The honorees were married at St. John's Catholic Church in Plaquemine on June 30, 1921.

Guelfi dies in Shreveport

Peter J. Guelfi, 76, of Shreveport died June 1 in Physicians and Surgeons Hospital in Shreveport.

A Gulf States retiree since May 1, 1969, Guelfi had joined the company in 1926 shortly after his graduation from Texas A&M. He began his career as a meter tester in Beaumont, but later held positions in the Sales Department, Rates Department and Estimating and Budget Section.

A native of Galveston, he had made his home in Beaumont for 51 years before moving to Shreveport.

INSIDE GSU



Gulf Stater turns to acting

When Gulf Stater Joe Ryan is not at work, he often turns to the stage as an amateur actor with the Beaumont Community Theater.

Ryan, who works in the System Purchasing Department in Beaumont, is shown as he gave a performance from the musical "Kismet" on June 1, from noon to 12:30 p.m. in the 20th floor auditorium during a Lunch Bunch session.

The Lunch Bunch is a free noon-time entertainment event held most Mondays in the Main Office auditorium. Participants munch on brown-bag lunches during presentations.

Investments given for Thrift Plan

The Thrift Plan investments made by the trustee during July 1981, covering employee deductions and company contributions through June 1981, included the purchase of 57,708 shares of common stock at a total cost of \$634,788.00. The average cost per share was \$11.

The trustee also made deposits of \$200,751.83 in savings in First Security Bank of Beaumont and \$42,295.00 in guaranteed fixed income funds with the Equitable Life Assurance Society.

GSU sponsors Energy Institute



For two years now, GSU has sponsored the Institute of Energy Education at Lamar University in Beaumont. The company is now offering the institute at McNeese State University for the first time.

Aubrey Sprawls, vice-president for Consumer Services, welcomed 25 classroom teachers from the Golden Triangle at Lamar on July 12.

That session of the institute was held July 14-31.

Participants who completed the course received six semester hours of graduate credit in education.

Ousse cited as safest

Robert Ousse, Substation mechanic, 1st class in Lafayette, was named safety employee of the month for June.

He was recognized for promoting good safety practices.

Lewis Creek ranks first

Lewis Creek Station employees ranked first among the three Texas power plants in the safety competition for Texas Operations during the first six months of 1981.

The winning employees were honored July 9 with a shrimp boil at the plant's employee pavillion.



Blood drive held in Baton Rouge

The North Boulevard employees in Baton Rouge were visited by a portable blood bank team on May 12.

Thirty-two people took the opportunity to join fellow employee donors from other Baton Rouge Division locations.

Pictured above, George M. Davis, Baton Rouge Division coordinator of consumer credit, is being "comforted" by co-worker Ben Campo.

Davis was one of the first to give.

Turner makes winning suggestion

Jim Turner, assistant to the vice-president of Public Affairs, was awarded \$75 for his suggestion of placing a metal map in the system garage in Beaumont, showing designated parking spaces.

The proposal, which has been implemented by the Main Office garage, has expedited the check-out process for company vehicles.

Narcisse honored at Lamar



Pamela Jean Narcisse graduated in May from Lamar University in Beaumont with top honors.

She is the daughter of Paul Narcisse of T&D Building and Grounds.

Among other honors, Narcisse was named to America's Names and Faces and Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities.

She graduated with a B.S. in elementary education and mathematics.

While attending Lamar she was a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Student Government Association and many other organizations.

She is presently teaching summer school at Carver Elementary in Port Arthur.

Gremillion wins fish tourney

Grady Gremillion, Lake Charles lineman, won first prize in the Burtan Hardware King Mackerel Rodeo on June 20, catching a 47 1/2-pound king mackerel.

The boat Gremillion was on, the "Sue J", received the first prize award of \$500.

The captain of the boat is Mike Granger.



McCarver has new grandchild

Six-pound, three-ounce Leslie Anne Lovett is shown being held by her father, Louis Wayne Lovett, shortly after her birth on June 6.

Leslie's mother, Lisa Lovett, is the daughter of Clata McCarver, who works in the New Caney office.

Since little Leslie was due on July 9, the mother and father had only attended one class teaching the Lamaze method of birth.

Leslie Anne is the first grandchild on the mother's side and the only girl born in the Lovett family.

Artist receives many honors

Judith Exner Parker, the daughter of Ben Exner, chief inspector of the Transmission Construction Department in Baton Rouge, has been awarded many honors in the field of watercolor painting.

Mrs. Parker has received over 50 watercolor awards and is represented in over 300 private and corporate collections in the U.S., Mexico, Canada, England and Australia.

She has had 22 solo shows in Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi, along with various exhibits in museums and galleries.

Warrick resigns from company



Yvonne Warrick, former departmental clerk in the Real Estate Department, resigned after 3 1/2 years with GSU to move to Taswell, Tenn., where she was to open up her own painting studio.

She left in early July. Shown with Mrs. Warrick is Jim Cornelius, director of real estate.

Member cooks chicken dinner

Calvin Oubre, entertainment chairman of the Baton Rouge Division Sideliners, prepared a fried chicken dinner for the club during the June 10 meeting.

Members and their guests then watched the film, "River Road," which features old plantations and other points of interest along the Mississippi River Road from St. Francisville to New Orleans.

According to Dorothy Sanchez, *Plain Talks* correspondent, future meetings will feature presentations on social security and insurance.

The Baton Rouge club was formed on Jan. 20 of this year. Officers are Cyril Dominguez, president; Ken Jumel, vice president; and Mrs. Sanchez, secretary-treasurer.

ON THE MOVE

Will, David E., Beaumont, to mechanic helper, Plant Production.

Williams, James E., Silsbee, to lineman-4th class, Elec. T&D.

Williams, Ronald W., Lake Charles, to lineman-2nd class, Elec. T&D.

Williams, Willie, Jr., Baton Rouge, to serviceman-1st class, Elec. T&D.

Winn, Luish Jr., Beaumont, to repairman-1st class, Plant Production.

Wisrodt, August V. Jr., Beaumont, to head fireman, Plant Production.

Wolley, Darrell G., Huntsville, to serviceman-3rd class, Elec. T&D.

Wyatt, Gary J., Lafayette, to apprentice, Elec. T&D.

Yates, Karen K., Baton Rouge, to consumer information coordinator, Division Consumer Services.

Allain, Millard L., Jr., Baton Rouge, to garage mechanic helper, Elec. T&D.

Alleman, Barry J., Louisiana Station, to operator's helper, Plant Production.

Andrus, Scot A., Nelson Station, to repairman-3rd class, Plant Production.

Avant, Max C., Jr., Baton Rouge, to apprentice, Elec. T&D.

Bagwell, Rayford L., Nelson Station, to master electrician, Plant Production.

Barber, Iris W., Baton Rouge, to stenographer-Sr., Division Accounting.

Barnes, John W., Willow Glen, to repairman-2nd class, Plant Production.

Beckes, Randy L., Baton Rouge, to lineman-4th class, Elec. T&D.

Bell, Ivy L., Oak Ridge, to apprentice, Elec. T&D.

Bergeron, Beverly J., Louisiana Station, to head fireman, Plant Production.

Berzas, Winston, Lake Charles, to communication serviceman-1st class, Elec. T&D.

Betancourt, Robert G., Willow Glen, to equipment operator, Plant Production.

Blanchard, John S., Willow Glen, to repairman-3rd class, Plant Production.

Braud, Randy M., Louisiana Station, to repairman-2nd class, Plant Production.

Brister, Gregory C., Louisiana Station, to auxiliary operator, Plant Production.

Brister, Joseph A., Lake Charles, to engineering assistant, Elec. T&D.

Brown, Ruby C., Orange, to customer contact clerk, Division Accounting.

Butler, Harry, Baton Rouge, to garage mechanic-2nd class, Elec. T&D.

Canella, Frank J., Baton Rouge, to lineman-3rd class, Elec. T&D.

Carpenter, Susan K., Beaumont, to tabulating machine operator, Computer Applications.

Chenevert, Clint E., Denham Springs, to helper, T&D Dept.

Chustz, John S., Louisiana Station, to switchboard operator, Plant Production.

Coates, David, Baton Rouge, to pipeman-1st class, Gas Dept./Construction.

Cortez, Peter, Beaumont, to mechanic helper, Plant Production.

Courtade, Russell A., Willow Glen, to repairman-3rd class, Plant Production.

Coye, Floyd W., Louisiana Station, to repairman-2nd class, Plant Production.

Dance, Elizabeth A., Baton Rouge, to senior engineering assistant, Elec. T&D.

Degraw, Gary D., Louisiana Station, to mechanic helper, Plant Production.

Deskin, Donald B., Nelson Station, to electrician-2nd class, Plant Production.

Dorman, Glenda B., Port Arthur, to electrician-3rd class, Plant Production.

Dotch, Albert A., Baton Rouge, to lineman-2nd class, Elec. T&D.

Doucet, Billy J., Nelson Station, to equipment operator, Plant Production.

Dozier, George W., Baton Rouge, to lineman-2nd class, Elec. T&D.

Duncan, Thomas W., Baton Rouge, to lineman-4th class, Elec. T&D.

Easterling, Don A., Zachary, to lineman-4th class, Elec. T&D.

Evans, Jan W., Beaumont, to stenographer-Sr., Office Services.

Farris, Gary S., Baton Rouge, to lineman-4th class, Elec. T&D.

Ferrari, Peter J., III, Baton Rouge, to lineman-3rd class, Elec. T&D.

Franklin, Michael R., Louisiana Station, to turbine enegineer, Plant Production.

Frazier, Ricky L., Beaumont, to substation mechanic-4th class, Elec. T&D.

Freeman, Michael T., Beaumont, to equipment operator, Plant Production.

Furrate, Lynda V., Baton Rouge, to energy auditor, Division Consumer Services.

Gallet, Kim A., Lafayette, to apprentice, Elec. T&D.

Gauthier, Malcolm A., Baton Rouge, to lineman-2nd class, Elec. T&D.

Gideon, Carl E., Port Arthur, to test technician-1st class, Plant Production.

Gordy, Diana C., Beaumont, to tabulating machine operator, Computer Applications.

Goudeau, Michael W., Willow Glen, to equipment operator, Plant Production.

Gross, Michael L., Beaumont, to repairman-3rd class, Plant Production.

Guillory, Martin A., Lake Charles, to meter reader, Division Accounting.

Guzzardo, John C., Louisiana Station, to repairman-2nd class, Plant Production.

Hare, Alfred D., Beaumont, to division substation operator, Elec. T&D.

Harris, Charles L., Baton Rouge, to garage mechanic-3rd class, Elec. T&D.

Harvey, Ted L., Nelson Coal, to equipment operator, Plant Production.

Hayes, Reginald L., Baton Rouge, to lineman-2nd class, Elec. T&D.

Hebert, Clofa C., Nelson Station, to mechanic helper, Plant Production.

Hebert, Robert, Lafayette, to storeroom assistant, Elec. T&D.

Hennesy, Ricky E., Baton Rouge, to apprentice, Elec. T&D.

Hill, Keith M., Louisiana Station, to operator's helper, Plant production.

Hillin, Nester M., Beaumont, to lineman-2nd class, Elec. T&D.

Holland, Larry G., Beaumont, to apprentice, Elec. T&D.

Holston, Robert L., Port Arthur, to electrician-1st class, Plant Production.

Hunt, Franklin B., Beaumont to utility worker II, Office Services.

Jack, James C., Willow Glen, to repairman-1st class, Plant Production.

Johnson, Harold, Beaumont, to storekeeper, Materials Management.

Johnson, Randy C., Sulphur, to apprentice, Elec. T&D.

Johnson, Rayford E., Conroe, to communications serviceman-1st class, Elec. T&D.

Johnson, Sheldon G., Baton Rouge, to energy auditor, Division Consumer Services.

Johnson, William, Jr., Calvert, to apprentice, Elec. T&D.

Jordan, Delbert E., Beaumont, to equipment operator, Plant Production.

Joseph, John H. C., Beaumont, to head fireman, Plant Production.

Ketcherside, Benjamin W., Beaumont, to turbine engineer, Plant Production.

King, Roy J., Beaumont, to engineering assistant, Engineer Design.

Knox, Patricia V., Louisiana Station, to second fireman, Plant Production.

Lagrange, Dixie L., Beaumont, to mechanic helper, Plant Production.

Lavergne, Vaughn G., Lafayette, to serviceman-3rd class, Elec. T&D.

Lawson, Gregory K., New Caney, to apprentice, Elec. T&D.

LeBlanc, Hudgen J. III, Baton Rouge, to communications serviceman-2nd class, Elec. T&D.

Lee, Joan R., Beaumont, to stenographer-Sr., Rates & Regulatory Affairs.

Lee, Wesley C., Willow Glen, to equipment operator, Plant Production.

Leger, Darren, Nelson Coal, to equipment operator, Plant Production.

Lemoine, James H., Baton Rouge, to communications serviceman-1st class, Elec. T&D.

Louviere, Robert G., Beaumont, to turbine engineer, Plant Production.

Luquette, Christopher D., Lafayette, to truckdriver, Elec. T&D.

Lyons, Robert E., Baton Rouge, to pipeman apprentice, Gas Dept./Construction.

Martin, Darrell B., Beaumont, to switchboard operator, Plant Production.

Martin, Philip M., Woodville, to lineman-2nd class, Elec. T&D.

Massey, Anthony W., Conroe, to equipment operator, Plant Production.

Matthews, Paul III, Beaumont, to head fireman, Plant Production.

McLaughlin, Larry W., Beaumont, to turbine engineer, Plant Production.

McNeal, Aaron, Lake Charles, to apprentice, Elec. T&D.

Miller, Louis J., Vidor, to lineman-4th class, Elec. T&D.

Miller, Ronald C., Baton Rouge, to apprentice, Elec. T&D.

Mock, Ernest D., Conroe, to lineman-4th class, Elec. T&D.

Moore, Larry, Willow Glen, to mechanic helper, Plant Production.

Morrison, Bryan J., Louisiana Station, to repairman-2nd class, Plant Production.

Mosley, Charles, Port Arthur, to garage mechanic-2nd class, Elec. T&D.

Mouton, Polo P., Baton Rouge, to serviceman-1st class, Elec. T&D.

Myers, Larry J., Jr., Baton Rouge, to storekeeper, Elec. T&D.

Ned, Reginald H., Port Arthur, to apprentice, elec. T&D.

Neeb, Steven A., Beaumont, to head fireman, Plant Production.

Osborne, Edward K., Vidor, to collector, Division Accounting.

Paul, James M., Baton Rouge, to meterman-2nd class, Elec. T&D.

Perkins, Willie J., Zachary, to lineman-2nd class, Elec. T&D.

Powell, Sherman R., Jr., Beaumont, to operator's helper, Plant Production.

Ramsey, Hayward, Beaumont, to mechanic helper, Plant Production.

Raven, Hugh A., Gonzales, to lineman-4th class, Elec. T&D.

Rayburn, Nancy W., Beaumont, to general dept. clerk, Office Services.

Richardson, Samuel W., Willow Glen, to electrician-2nd class, Plant Production.

Richey, Stephen J., Louisiana Station, to auxiliary operator, Plant Production.

Roe, Nathan W., Conroe, to apprentice, Elec. T&D.

Rose, Joseph, Jr., Baton Rouge, to serviceman-2nd class, Elec. T&D.

Rucker, Linda S., Beaumont, to key punch operator-sr., Computer Applications.

St. Julien, Jason, Orange, to lineman-2nd class, Elec. T&D.

Sarver, Eugene F., Lafayette, to engineering assistant, Elec. T&D.

Scott, James M., Baton Rouge, to truckdriver, Elec. T&D.

Scott, Michael J., Conroe, to helper, T&D Dept.

Sims, Bryan L., Baton Rouge, to garage mechanic helper, Elec. T&D.

Singleton, Billy D., Conroe, to electrician-3rd class, Plant Production.

Smith, Charlie G., Jr., Willow Glen, to test technician-1st class, Plant Production.

Sorrell, Sheila Y., Baton Rouge, to customer contact clerk, Division Accounting.

Spittler, Deborah H., Beaumont, to stenographer-sr., Power Plant Engineering & Design.

Stelly, Gary P., Baton Rouge, to relayman-2nd class, Elec. T&D.

Stidham, Shane A., Nelson Station, to repairman-1st class, Plant Production.

Swope, Michael, Orange, to substation mechanic-3rd class, Elec. T&D.

Tarver, Stephen W., Port Arthur, to equipment operator, Plant Production.

(Continued on page 19.)

GSU Participates in Energy Symposium

by Don Pumphrey

As the age of liquid fuels nears a close, the United States will become an increasingly electric nation, asserted Dr. Linn Draper, vice president of nuclear technology for Gulf States.

Over 600 teachers and students heard Dr. Draper make that prediction during the 21st Texas Energy Symposium for High Schools at the University of Texas Austin campus June 2-5. Other noted energy experts also spoke during the symposium, which was attended by 37 teachers and students from GSU's service area. The company sponsored their attendance.

Noting the cost of imported oil, Dr. Draper told participants, "A family of four paid an additional \$2,000 in energy costs for goods and services because we imported over 40 percent of our petroleum needs last year."

Participants were also told that the nation has been producing electrical power from nuclear reactors since 1957. Since that time, the industry has grown from one plant to 75. "People perceive nuclear power as the major generator of nuclear waste," Dr. Draper noted. "The thought is that by stopping the production of electricity by means of nuclear generators, you'll halt the production of

nuclear waste." According to Dr. Draper, however, 99 percent of all nuclear waste comes from military use.

In addition to the lectures, the students and teachers toured the Texas Atomic Energy Research Foundation's (TAERF) Texas Experimental Tokamak, an experimental research into creating nuclear fusion. While viewing the Tokamak, the participants were told about the project by Jim Green, resident program manager for physics.



Dr. Draper addressed the gathering during the opening day.



Participants toured the laboratory housing the Tokamak. professor Jim Green (center), resident program manager for physics, used a module to explain the fusion reactor.

How thoroughly do you usually read an issue of *Plain Talks*?
Would you say you:

- Simply glance through it
- Read some articles from start to finish
- Read all articles from start to finish
- Never read any part of it

Others in my household who read *Plain Talks* are:

- Husband/Wife
- Children
- Others
- None

I am:

- An employee
- A retiree

How many years have you been a GSU employee?

- Less than two years
- 2 years to 5 years
- 5 years to 10 years
- 10 years & longer
- Rather not answer

How frequently do you discuss with co-workers the stories you have read?

- Always
- Occasionally
- Seldom
- Never

What do you like most about *Plain Talks*?

What do you like least about *Plain Talks*?

What is your overall opinion of *Plain Talks*?

- Very good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor
- Very poor

I find *Plain Talks*:

- Usually interesting
- Moderately interesting
- Not interesting
- No opinion

Overall, how accurate is the information that appears in *Plain Talks*? Would you say the information usually is:

- Very accurate
- Somewhat accurate
- Hardly ever accurate
- No opinion

Are the stories easy to understand?

- Always
- Occasionally
- Seldom
- Never

In future issues of *Plain Talks*, I would like to see:

a) Company news:

- Same
- More
- Less

b) Departmental stories:

- Same
- More
- Less

g) Mailbox:

- Same
- More
- Less

c) Personality features:

- Same
- More
- Less

h) Stories on retirees:

- Same
- More
- Less

b) Number of photos:

- Sufficient
- Too many
- Too few

d) Layout of contents on pages:

- Satisfactory
- Needs improvement

i) Meet your correspondents:

- Same
- More
- Less

d) "On the Move" and other personnel news:

- Same
- More
- Less

e) Family news:

- Same
- More
- Less

j) Governmental issues:

- Same
- More
- Less

d) Front cover:

- Excellent
- Good
- Fair
- Needs improvement

Do you ever contribute information to a *Plain Talks* correspondent assigned to your work area?

- Always
- Occasionally
- Seldom
- Never

k) Energy use and conservation:

- Same
- More
- Less

What is your job? _____

Where do you work? _____

Sex of respondent:

- Male
- Female

a) Type size:

- Satisfactory
- Too large
- Too small

What is your opinion on the following? _____

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Readership Survey

Editor's Note: *Plain Talks* is designed for the reader — employees and retirees of Gulf States. In order to obtain a clearer picture of just what the reading audience wants, the *Plain Talks* staff has devised a special readership survey. By answering the following questions, readers can indicate what they believe should be included or emphasized in the company magazine. Please complete the questionnaire by circling the appropriate answer or filling in the blank, then cut it out along the dotted lines and drop it in the company mail to Susan Gilley, *Plain Talks* Editor, Goodhue Building, Beaumont. All questionnaires should be returned before September 30.